

Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Zhong-Cheng HuSerial No.: **09/397,814**Filed: **September 17, 1999**For: **SOL-GEL PROCESSING WITH INORGANIC
METAL SALT PRECURSORS**Art Unit: **1712**Examiner: **Daniel S. Metzmaier**

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GROUP 1700

#5

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

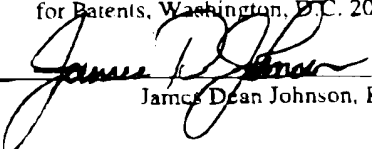
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated July 27, 2000, Applicant hereby elects Claims 1-51, categorized by the Examiner as Group 1. The Office Action of July 27, 2000 further requires an election of species since the Examiner asserts that the claims are generic to a plurality of disclosed, patentably distinct species comprising inorganic metal salts and organic solvents. Applicant elects zirconium as the inorganic metal salt. Applicant further elects isopropanol as the organic solvent. These elections are made with traverse.

Applicant respectfully asserts that the specification clearly supports solutions which are based in water and alcohol as the organic solvent. Support is found on page 7, lines 1-3 and lines 10-14. Additional support is provided on page 10, lines 1-4. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider this election of species requirement and permit examination of lower alcohols which would include methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-propanol, tert butyl alcohol, n-butanol and glycerol. These are all recited in Claims 8, 26, 38 and 47.

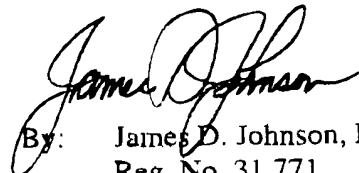
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile number
(703) 305-5408 to: Examiner Metzmaier, Group 1700, Assistant Commissioner
for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on August 28, 2000.


James Dean Johnson, Reg. No. 31,771

Applicant: *Zhong-Cheng Hu*
Serial No.: 09/397,814
Response to Office Action
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This Response fully addresses the Office Action of July 27, 2000. This Response is timely filed within one-month after the Office Action was mailed since August 27, 2000 fell on a Sunday. Accordingly, no additional fees are believed due, however, the Examiner is authorized to charge any additional fees required to deposit account 10-1215. Please address future correspondence concerning this case to John K. McDonald, Ph.D., Reg. No. 42,860. Dr. McDonald is appointed through the Associate Power of Attorney which accompanies this Response. His direct dial number is 404-949-2470.

Respectfully submitted,


By: James D. Johnson, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 31,771

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